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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/034,293	12/21/2001	Andrew W. Torrance	ABR-001.01	9741
25181	7590	08/25/2006	EXAMINER BOYCE, ANDRE D	
FOLEY HOAG, LLP PATENT GROUP, WORLD TRADE CENTER WEST 155 SEAPORT BLVD BOSTON, MA 02110			ART UNIT 3623	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Newly submitted claims 25-29 and amended dependent claims 9, 12, 17, 21 and 22 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: Independent claim 25 is directed towards a method that makes the number of other users' questions a first user has answered the basis for deciding how much feedback the system will give the first user regarding other users' responses to the first user's questions. Independent claim 27 is directed towards embedding hyperlinks in questions or proposed answers presented to a user, wherein claim 27 includes a hyperlink is included in at least one other-user question or proposed answer thereto. Independent claim 28 is directed towards a response collection method in which advertisements are incorporated in the questions or proposed answers, wherein claim 28 recites the user questions and/or possible responses thereto include advertisements. Independent claim 29 is directed towards basing selection of questions for transmission on keywords that the question or proposed answers include.

In contrast, original independent claims 1, 23 and 24 are directed towards receiving from different network computers different sets of data, individual ones of the sets of data comprising identification of a question and identification of possible responses to the question and sending to different network computers one of the different sets of data for presentation of the question and possible responses and user selection of at least one of the

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possible responses, and are not directed towards the subject matter of newly submitted claims 25-29, as discussed above.

2. Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 9, 12, 17, 21, 22 and 25-29 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.
3. The amendment filed on June 8, 2006 presenting only claims drawn to a non-elected invention is non-responsive (MPEP § 821.03).

Conclusion


4. Since the above-mentioned amendment appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to reply, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this notice within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) ARE AVAILABLE.
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andre Boyce whose telephone number is (571) 272-6726. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6pm M-F.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tariq Hafiz can be reached on (571) 272-6729. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

adb
August 19, 2006


ANDRE BOYCE
PATENT EXAMINER
A.U. 3623